

I. HISTORY

The Rhea County Health Council was established in 1996 to address the health needs of Rhea County residents and oversee the health status of Rhea County. The council is made up of local health care professionals, elected officials, and other local citizens. Since 1996, the council has orchestrated various activities to address health needs including forums for TennCare issues, free health screenings, and other special projects for the population of Rhea County. All of these efforts have been successful. Begun in January of 1997, the Community Diagnosis Process has offered the council a systematic approach to identifying health issues in a manner that is sensible, effective, and assures long-term improvement.

II. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Rhea County Health Council is to assure that quality health care is accessible, available, and affordable to fellow residents.

III. SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Total Number of Households: 9,185

	Rhea County	Southeast Region	State
Percent of households that are family households	76	77.1	72.7
Percent of households that are headed by a female with non husband present	11.8	10.3	12.6
Percent of households that are families headed by a female with no husband present and with children under 18 years	6.6	5.3	6.9
Percent of households with the householder 65 and up	24.7	22.7	21.8

EDUCATION

	Rhea County	Southeast Region	State
Number of persons age 25 and older	15,592	163,220	3,139,066
Percent of persons 25 and up that are high school graduates or higher	56	58.0	67.1
Percent of persons 25 and up with a bachelor's degree or higher	8.5	9.7	16.0